

Minutes of the Combined Health & Human Services Board & Committee

Thursday, January 29, 2009

Chairs Farrell and Paulson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), Joe Vitale, and Peter Geiss, and Supervisors Jim Jeskewitz, Duane Paulson, and Janel Brandtjen. Citizen Member Flor Gonzalez arrived at 1:18 p.m. **Absent:** Citizen Members Michael O'Brien and JoAnn Weidmann.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Duane Paulson (Chair), Kathleen Cummings, Jim Jeskewitz, Pauline Jaske, Gilbert Yerke, Bill Zaborowski, and Janel Brandtjen.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Ann Olson, CJCC Coordinator Rebecca Luczaj, Health & Human Services Director Peter Schuler, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels, Senior Financial Analyst Bill Duckwitz, Public Health Advisory Committee Interim Chair Lori Cronin, and Public Health Manager Nancy Healy Haney. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Committee Agenda Items

Correspondence

Paulson advised of a new grant application for an Adult Drug Court Discretionary Program Enhancement Grant. (This item is discussed further on pages 2 and 3).

Meeting Approvals

MOTION: Brandtjen moved, second by Jaske to approve attendance to the National Public Health Performance Standards Project at WCTC on April 7. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Minutes of 8-14-08

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by Jaske to approve the minutes of August 14. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

- Review Restaurant and Septic Inspection Rules and Guidelines (Paulson)
- Presentation on Emergency Management (Brandtjen)
- Update on the St. Joe's Dental Clinic (Brandtjen)

Executive Committee Reports (1-5 and 1-27)

Paulson advised of the following issues discussed at the last two Executive Committee meetings including the recommended appointment of Paul Decker to fill Jim Behrend's seat on the County Board, and possible future agenda items.

Announcements

Yerke gave a brief update on the Community Development Block Grant Board and possible changes in how grant funds will be managed and distributed.

Flor Gonzalez arrived at 1:18 p.m.

Board Agenda Items

Announcements

Farrell introduced Dr. Peter Geiss, the newest member of the Health & Human Services Board. Board and committee introductions followed.

Besides the National Public Health Performance Standards Project on April 7, Schuler said a number of exercises will be planned for this year relative to Public Health. He recommended that board and committee members observe these exercises. Healy-Haney said one exercise will be held at the Expo Center Forum on July 7. This would be aimed at first responders and is a new exercise for the professionals in the department and relates to bio-terrorism and national stockpiles. Schuler said local officials in the metro area are meeting today to talk about the extension of a plan that already exists in Milwaukee to evacuate Milwaukee County citizens. After the extended plan is developed further a drill will be conducted. Schuler said information will be forthcoming as it materializes.

Schuler said the Wisconsin County Human Services Spring Conference will be held in April and additional information will be forthcoming. He noted this is an excellent conference.

Approve Minutes of 8-14-08

MOTION: Vitale moved, second by Brandtjen to approve the minutes of August 14. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Agenda Item

Drug Court Enhancement Grant

Luczaj said this grant would enhance what they are currently doing in the County's Alcohol Treatment Court Program. The due date is today. Our request is for \$164,940 for a two-year period. Luczaj said we hope to serve an additional 100 clients under this enhancement grant. There is a 25% non-federal fund match requirement. The majority of this requirement will consist of County funds totaling \$54,980 and also some staff time. The grant funds will allow us to provide additional services to participants and extend court evaluation. Our evaluator is Dr. Matt Hiller of Temple University who recommended we increase the use of the SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Monitoring) units which monitors alcohol intake 24/7. Currently, Alcohol Treatment Court participants are required to be on SCRAM for the first 15 days of the program. Under this proposal, participants will be on SCRAM for 60 days – the entire Phase I of the program. Luczaj said studies show that people are most likely to relapse during this timeframe. They are proposing participants pay for the first 15 days on SCRAM at \$12.50 per day and the grant will cover the remaining 45 days on SCRAM plus the \$50 install fee.

In addition, Luczaj said EDAC (Early Detection of Alcohol Consumption) testing, a blood test, will be used in Phase II through Phase IV of the program to increase support in maintaining sobriety and

increase accountability. We currently rely on urine and breathalyzer tests, however, these can be manipulated by participants. EDAC testing is more accurate and prevents possible manipulation and starts where SCRAM leaves off. We are writing to have the grant cover the cost of these tests at \$70 each and we are requiring up to four tests per participant.

A portion of the grant will be also be used to pay for tangible incentives to reward and encourage positive behavior such as gift cards, sports/recreational tickets, etc. Studies show that tangible incentives do encourage participation and sobriety. Brandtjen asked how much would be budgeted for this. Luczaj said a maximum of \$50 per client over the course of the program. Brandtjen said although this was not a large amount of money, she was not comfortable with using tax dollars for this purpose and suggested pursuing donations. Schuler said the grant application is due today but this was certainly something that could be pursued later.

Luczaj said funds will also be used for ongoing and specialized training for drug court staff including judges, caseworkers, and public defenders. This will be especially helpful come August when a new judge rotates to the Alcohol Treatment Court.

Luczaj advised that a large component of this grant application is continued evaluation of the alcohol treatment court. They are proposing to continue with Temple University. Dr. Hiller has done an excellent job evaluating program successes. Hiller will be able to determine whether increasing SCRAM to 60 days was effective, as well as the EDAC tests and overall recidivism of graduates after they complete Alcohol Treatment Court.

Paulson asked if this will help with the program's budget. Schuler said for the most part they are additional funds and do not supplant but they do help with the budget in some areas whereby he referred to testing and staff training which would need to be done regardless.

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Zaborowski to approve the grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Agenda Items

Public Health Advisory Committee: HHS Board Request

Cronin said the Public Health Advisory Committee unanimously made a motion to request the County Executive to give the Public Health Division small agency status for 2010 budgetary purposes. Without this change, they are concerned the County's Public Health Division will fall from a Level II to a Level I Public Health Division. The advisory committee feels that the small department status may avert the loss of the Public Health Division Level II status by making the division more visible and by providing an independent tax levy target. As a Level I, there are four statutory duties that include community disease control, minimal maternal child health programming, statutory STD follow-up, and a statutory lead program. Currently, in addition to the statutory programs, they have additional community programs including an adult influenza and pneumonia vaccine program, a STD clinic, health checks for children, child lead poisoning prevention, high risk geriatric home visits, chronic disease program, a nurse call center, and family health clinic. Cronin said if we dropped to Level I, prenatal care coordination would drop with a substantial impact on maternity and we would really be missing the chronic disease piece. Cronin

noted that one-third of County residents do not have health insurance. These are the people who would most benefit from a Level II because if conditions are not prevented or treated right away, it is more costly in the end. Cronin said we would also have a difficult time participating in the Community Health Improvement Plan if we went to Level I status.

Schuler gave history on the Public Health Division from when it was a separate agency to when it merged with Health & Human Services. For years Public Health was given a separate budget target. However, this shifted and the department is now given a tax levy target for the entire department. Schuler said this leaves the department trying to budget all seven divisions and maintain their budgetary status which can be very difficult. For many years, there have been no base increases from their basic funding sources: Community Aids and Youth Aids. Schuler said each year he meets with his division managers to discuss the budgets and what they can and can't do, always driven by mandates. If Public Health was given its own tax levy target, they would fare much better. Schuler stressed that you will know right away that Public Health is falling apart, much faster than the rest of the department. For the last few years, they have been striving to stay at Level II. Schuler said if we fall to Level I, we will lose more state funding and more programs that almost everyone else has. The County Executive has made efforts to keep this together and everyone is invested in this goal, at least philosophically. Schuler was concerned with the future of Public Health programming, especially with this year's budget and potential future cuts.

Vitale had concerns with cutting preventative programs in general, just to spend more later. Schuler said this year is worse than the last few years and if we lose more funding, Public Health will lose staff. Vitale, referring to the letter to County Executive Vrakas, asked how long this could be postponed. Schuler said a decision should be made by the middle of May. Farrell asked that this be discussed further at a future meeting before making a decision. Geiss thought the programs were important, many for at-risk clients, but was concerned that if they were funded, where would the funding be taken from. Cronin said if there is no change, they anticipate being a Level I by 2010. Schuler concurred and said if things don't change, he will have to make cuts and Public Health will be affected first and Child Welfare would probably be next.

MOTION: Vitale moved, second by Brandtjen to table this issue and agendaize it for further discussion at the March 12 meeting and that it be a combined agenda item. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Reappointments of Psychiatrists

MOTION: Vitale moved, second by Jeskewitz to approve the following appointments: Michele Cusatis, Antoinette Ducrest, Terry Jakubaitis, Cary Kohlenberg, Manfred Kreuzpaintner, Mohammad Mallick, Rada Malinovic, Malti Patel, Manuel Ramos, and Thomas Wilson. All terms expire December 31, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Combined Agenda Items

Public Health Update

Healy-Haney said they are currently working on clusters of Pertussis. There have been two confirmed cases at Horizon School in Pewaukee and four confirmed cases at the Brookfield

Academy. Over Christmas there was an e-coli cluster of three Waukesha School District children in the third grade although this was contained quickly.

Healy-Haney said they have found a new revenue source for TB care and we will be able to bill Medicaid directly for certain types of case management. We received our first \$10,000 check which may cover some clinic costs this year. They are hoping to incur more case management funding.

Public Health Governance Essential Service #3

Schuler distributed information on this issue entitled "National Public Health Performance Standards Program – Local Public Health Governance Board – Health & Human Services Board Statutory Authority." Healy-Haney discussed Essential Service #3 which relates to informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues. Healy-Haney reviewed her report as outlined including governance and responsibilities. She said she will be back in March to discuss the new health report card.

Healy-Haney noted that they have seen an increase in the number of women delaying prenatal care in their first trimester. A press release will be done informing the community of health issues in our county that have been improving and those that have not. Heart disease for men has improved and cases have gone down. The bad news, however, is heart disease for women continues and strokes in women are increasing, more so than in men. They ~~airto~~ do a Community Health Improvement Plan in cooperation with the Health Council by highlighting campaigns that can be done by all health providers in the community. This is just one of the many things they are obliged to do – to disseminate health information/issues into the community. They also put out health safety/ screenings and they did a tremendous amount of health education during the flood in June. They also do media interviews when necessary and articles on various health services.

Set Joint Meeting Dates from May through December

The committee and board discussed and confirmed some of their meeting dates for 2009.

MOTION: Vitale moved, second by Jeskewitz to adjourn the board at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Jeskewitz to adjourn the committee at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved on: _____

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary